

# GENERAL MOTORS

## **Detroit-Hamtramck Assembly Plant**

"The employees of Detroit-Hamtramck Assembly plant are committed to continuous improvement of our environment by reducing energy consumption, encouraging recycling at home and work, and building green vehicles with reduced reliance on gas such as the Chevrolet Volt extended-range electric vehicle," said Doneen McDowell, plant manager. "We are honored to be recognized among leaders in the automotive industry, and very excited to receive this Clean Corporate Citizen award for the third consecutive year."

#### Vital Statistics

Clean Corporate Citizen since March 8, 2011

#### Operation:

Automotive Manufacturing

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General Motors Detroit-Hamtramck (DHAM) is located in the cities of Detroit and Hamtramck. The first vehicle produced at DHAM for sale – a Cadillac Eldorado – came off the end of the line at 12:05 p.m. on February 4<sup>th</sup>, 1985. Since then, more than 3 million vehicles have been built. The plant currently builds the Chevy Volt, Opel Ampera, Chevy Malibu and the Chevy Impala.

### **Green Highlights:**

- Detroit-Hamtramck is the proud home to a 16.5-acre wildlife habitat conservation area that has received recognition and certification from the Wildlife Habitat Council (WHC). Certification awarded in Nov. 2006.
- In 2010, additional green based renovations have occurred, including a walkway to the visitors lobby that features less concrete utilizing a lightning bolt design that is trimmed by a new rain garden that filters rain water from the walkway.
- A 30kW solar carport located in the visitor's parking lot has the capability of simultaneously charging up to 10 Chevrolet Volts and Opel Ampera electric vehicles.
- The plant recycled more than 70 thousand wood pallets and 950 tons of cardboard in 2012.
- In partnership with a local utility company a 516kW solar array, 6.06 acres in size is located in a former section of an employee parking lot that is capable of providing 10% of the fixed demand for the plant.
- The plant partnered with AVI and implemented a green cafeteria which uses biodegradable materials and also collects vegetable and fruit scraps for use as compost in an off-site application, Detroit Dirt for use at their urban farm.
- The plant publishes a quarterly newsletter titled "The Environmental Times" which communicates plant environmental initiatives as well as information related to energy and waste reduction.
- The plant was the recipient of the Neighborhood Environmental Partner award, 2011 MDEQ's highest environmental honor.

- Site Environmental Engineers volunteer annually with local schools with the organization "Friends of the Rouge" conducting river sampling and learning about the Rouge River.
- The plant celebrates Earth Day annually which may include visits to local schools, T-shirt awards, hosting plant recycling events, as well as displaying information and sponsoring giveaways.
- The plant donates scrap plastics from the assembly process to the organization "Arts and Scraps" to be made into art craft kits for students.

#### More about the Certified Wildlife Habitat:

The wildlife habitat at the facility includes 16.5 acres of warm season grasses and is home to red tailed hawk, bluebirds, barn swallows, monarchs, pheasant and more. The habitat is equipped with bluebird boxes, a wood duck box, and bat boxes and the site is certified as a Monarch Waystation by Monarch Watch.org. As a monarch waystation, GM Detroit-Hamtramck demonstrates protection and conservation of the monarch population. Milkweed, native plantings and a new rain garden helped achieve the certification.

#### **More about Environmental Community Involvement:**

The plant is an active member of the community. Plant volunteers have built wood duck and bat boxes with local schools and recreation centers using re-purposed Volt battery covers, worked with the Boy Scouts on building and placing bat boxes on site, volunteered time with the Rouge Education Project, where environmental engineers assist local schools in analyzing the Rouge River water during spring sampling events, and with the Team GM Cares program, planted trees and conducted clean up with the Greening of Detroit, as well as volunteered time working with Arts and Scraps.

